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FM AMEMBASSY RABAT
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3564
INFO RUCNIRA/IRAN COLLECTIVE IMMEDIATE
RUEHAS/AMEMBASSY ALGIERS IMMEDIATE 3957
RUEHCV/AMEMBASSY CARACAS IMMEDIATE 0018
RUEHSA/AMEMBASSY PRETORIA IMMEDIATE 0206
RUEHTU/AMEMBASSY TUNIS IMMEDIATE 8844
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE 0517
RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE 0971

C O N F I D E N T I A L RABAT 000787

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DEPT FOR NEA/MAG, IO/UNP

E.O. 12958: DECL: 04/27/2016

TAGS: [KUNR](#) [PHUM](#) [UNHRC](#) [PREL](#) [MO](#)

SUBJECT: MOROCCO: UN HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL CANDIDACY OF IRAN

REF: STATE 66050

Classified By: Pol/C Timothy Lenderking for reasons 1.4 (b), (d).

¶1. (C) Poloff discussed reftel demarche April 27 with MFA Director for International Organizations and UN Affairs Nasser Bourita and urged Morocco to oppose the candidacy of Iran and other serious human rights abusers during the May 9 vote for the UN Human Rights Council. Bourita said that Iran had proposed reciprocity with Morocco, but that Morocco had refused to give its support to Iran and had already promised its vote to 13 other Asian countries. The GOM felt strongly that the new Council must be credible, and as a result, had either refused, as in the case of Iran, or simply not replied to several countries which did not meet the GOM's criteria for support, including Venezuela, Cuba and South Africa. This criteria, explained Bourita, included: positive bilateral relations, a "multilateral spirit," and the human rights element (i.e., that the country not be a human rights abuser). Bourita emphasized that it is not enough to change the structure, but that the mentality of the new Council must also change in order to maintain the credibility of the new organization.

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Riley